Chicopee Register

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Councilor Galecki's comments on sexual assault 'reprehensible'; residents call for resignation

By Dalton Zbierski Staff Writer

CHICOPEE - A string of controversial Facebook comments made last month by Ward 3 City Councilor Lucian Galecki has set in motion a series of events that could alter Chicopee's City Charter.

The saga began on Dec. 15, 2020 when Galecki, a 31-year-old, first-term elected official, engaged in an online argument with Kaween Fernando, who lost his bid for Ward 3 Councilor to Galecki in 2019.

When the conversation shifted to sexual assault, Galecki posted several comments that quickly caught the attention of residents. Galecki expressed his opinion that scantily-clad women who enter dangerous situations put themselves at a high risk for assault.

"If they knew that it was likely that it would happen and they were warned to stay away from those areas but they went instead, it's completely their fault," said Galecki on Dec. 15. "If you voluntarily put yourself in harm's way, don't be surprised if something bad happens."

Fernando, who did not



SUBMITTED BY JEANNETTE RIVERA.

Advocating for Ward 3 City Councilor Lucjan Galecki's removal from office following insensitive Facebook comments, Gladys Franco protests prior to last Tuesday's City Council meeting.

respond to multiple requests to comment, publicized the Galecki's comments, which gained traction throughout Chicopee and western Massachusetts. By the next day, a contingent of residents were adamantly calling for Galecki's resignation.

But no recall provision exists within Chicopee's City Charter that would enable

City Council President Shane Brooks to remove Galecki from the council.

Brooks, who has two daughters of his own, found Galecki's comments "reprehensible," and asked Galecki to step down.

Galecki has refused to resign. Brooks explained why Galecki remains Ward 3's City Councilor and listed several

steps that have been taken.

"There isn't a current mechanism embedded in the City Charter for me to, essentially, have him step away. I can strip him of committee assignments and publicly demand that he step down – all of which I did within 24 hours of becoming aware of the issue,"

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Costello elected School Committee Vice Chair

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Fans in question for winter

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POLICE/FIRE

Multiple arrests made on Montcalm Street



On Jan. 6, Chicopee Police Narcotics Detectives joined forces with the Western Massachusetts Gang Task Force to execute a search of an apartment unit at 419 Montcalm St., where they located three firearms, over 40 grams of heroin, marijuana and more than \$6,000 in currency. Photo courtesy of Chicopee Police Department.

By Dalton Zbierski Staff Writer

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Police Department has kept itself busy in early 2021, ringing in the new year by making multiple high-profile arrests on the same street one day apart.

On Jan. 5, Chicopee police and fire department personnel responded to an active fire at 348 Montcalm St. The fire was extinguished successfully, but investigators quickly contacted the Chicopee Police narcotics divisions after discovering evidence of narcotics and hazardous materials.

They found evidence of what is believed to be an elaborate operation to cultivate and manufacture illegal substances," said Public Information Officer Donna Liszka in a Jan. 7 statement

After a search warrant was obtained, a team from the state's Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Division examined the site to ensure that no potentially harmful by-products, manufacturing

See **ARRESTS** page 6

HEALTH

COVID cases decrease in city over the last week

By Dalton Zbierski Staff Writer

CHICOPEE - Chicopee's COVID-19 active caseload has lessened significantly over the past week, according to the latest figures from city

On Jan. 13, the Office of Mayor John Vieau reported that there were 436 open cases of the novel coronavirus in Chicopee. On Jan. 6, the city reported 953 active cases.

Since COVID-19 arrived in Massachusetts in early 2020, 2,170 Chicopee residents have recovered from the virus, while 23 residents have passed away. There have been 2,728 total positive cases in Chicopee as of Wednesday evening.

"We had case workers and contract tracers review the open cases and work to get data and responses from our open cases over the weekend and throughout the past few days. A number of cases were found to have been recovered, so the number of open cases was reduced through their follow up and hours of work,"

said Vieau in a Jan. 13 release. Despite making headway, the threat of COVID-19 remains in Chicopee. The city

still boasts a high infection rate, as 31 new cases of the virus were diagnosed on Jan. 12; 17 more were diagnosed on Wednesday, as of early evening.

Chicopee Comprehensive High School on Montgomery Street continues to serve as a free drive-through testing site. Appointments are not necessary, but residents must verify that they live within the city's limits.

Residents must be over the age of two to be tested. The site will administer up to 20,000 tests for up to three months, and will next be open on Jan. 19 and 20 from 8 a.m. until noon.

Once schools reopen, the site will have to relocate from Chicopee Comp. to either the RiverMills Center on West Main Street or an alternate

"We are looking to make the site more portable so it can move from neighborhood

See **COVID** page 6

Costello named School Committee Vice Chair

MCAS tests were also postponed for seniors, shortened for grades 3-8

> By Dalton Zbierski Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – On the evening of Jan. 6, the Chicopee School Committee unanimously named Ward 9 Representative Mary Elizabeth Pniak-Costello as its new Vice Chairwoman

Costello will occupy a role that has long been held by Ward 3 Representative, Marjorie Wojcik. After the decision was made, numerous representatives thanked Wojcik for her service, and Costello was among them.

"I just want to thank everyone for their vote and want to thank Marge for her dedicated years of service," said Costello.

Ward 1 Representative James Tanhauser was nominated for the position but declined to vote for himself.

A tenured member of the School Committee, Costello has earned the respect of her peers throughout the district. After serving on the Planning Board, Costello was first elected to the School Committee in 1997.

Following Costello's appointment, the committee unanimously re-appointed Ward 4 Representative Sandra Peret as its liaison to City Council. For the past several years, Peret has been a common face in the

crowd at council meetings, where she will continue to maintain a presence.

"I'd like to congratulate you Sandra. You've done a very good job in the past. It was my pleasure to work with you when I was President of the City Council so thank you," said Mayor and Committee Chair, John Vieau.

Peret offered her gratitude to the committee and used the opportunity to shed light on new scams that have appeared as COVID-19 vaccinations are distributed throughout the country. Peret read from an email sent across the district by Evelyn Rivera-Riffenburg, Chicopee Public Schools' director of human resources.

"The email shared with us stated that if you received a telephone call, you would not be asked to pay out of pocket for the vaccine," said Peret. "It's generally covered by your insurance because it is an immunization, and if you are asked to put your name on a vaccine on a waiting list to get early access, do not do that."

Social media, emails, phone calls or other unsolicited attempts to sell vaccines should be avoided, as should marketers offering to ship doses.

"Everyone is asked to protect themselves and not give out personal information to unknown sources. You, as a citizen, would not be contacted about any of this information to be given out," said Peret.

Superintendent Lynn Clark was proud to announce that Dupont Memorial Middle School Librarian,

Claudia Palframan, was chosen to serve as co-director of the West Region Executive Board of the Mass. School Library Association.

"She works really hard to advocate for the librarians and our school libraries, so I'm really thankful for her and very proud of her for being chosen to be part of this executive board," said Clark.

Clark also revealed an important development regarding the MCAS tests, following an announcement from Jeffrey Riley, the much-maligned Commissioner of the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

"[Riley] recommended that the competency determination be modified for our current seniors. As a result of that, he is going to be postponing the Jan. 14 MCAS, which was for Grade 12 students until the board actually passes that. Instead, they will have to pass a course and demonstrate competency," said Clark.

Testing has also been shortened for students in grades 3-8. Clark explained that the access window has been extended.

"That's the standardized state testing that due to federal regulations we have to give for our English Language Learners. That is going to be extended until May, so we are very thankful for some of those flexibilities that have been put in place even prior to the vote," said Clark.

Chicopee Annual City Census is underway

CHICOPEE – The Board of Registrars of Voters is in the process of conducting the state mandated annual city census of all residents age 3 and up. 21,300 Census questionnaires will be mailed within the next two weeks.

City residents, regardless of citizenship or voter registration status, are required to confirm or correct the information the City maintains on file. Census forms may be returned by mail or dropped off at the Collector's Box in front of the City Hall Annex. They can also be faxed to the Registrar's office at (413) 594-1554 or e-mailed as an attached document to jsurdy-ka@chicopeema.gov. Residents who have not moved within the last year may respond electronically using the census form available on the City's website, www.chicopeema.gov.

In order to save the City money, the Board of Registrars of Voters is asking residents for a prompt and accurate response to avoid the need for future mailings, phone calls or follow up visits by a census taker. For additional information or questions relative to voter registration status please call the Registrars of Voters office at (413) 594-1550. Voter information may also be accessed on our City website, www.chicopeema.gov or Secretary of State website, www.sec.state.ma.us/ovr/

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First American Insurance Agency, at 30 Sturbridge Rd., Brimfield. FAIA President Corey Murphy said the company has job opportunities available.

Career opportunities available at local insurance firm

By Jonah Snowden jsnowden@turley.com

BRIMFIELD - From an industry standpoint, with all the turmoil taking place because of the COVID-19 pandemic, First American Insurance Agency President Corey Murphy would like to remind the public of their career opportunities.

One of the positions that both the Brimfield and Chicopee locations are currently looking to fill is account manager. The person hired for that role would be responsible for scripting the agencies coverages, locate insurances policies clients and more.

"We also are looking for other positions, which serve an inside sales position," said Murphy.

"We have people that call and are interested in purchasing a policy or wanting to get a quote, so we need people that would be focused on taking care of our

Murphy's reasoning behind making this information public, he said, is because typically, insurance agencies are places people simply don't realize represent a number of job opportunities. He also said it's a place where people are interested in helping others and assist them as they go through their lives, whether it's getting a house, car and acquiring other property

Murphy further encourages prospective applicants by emphasizing it's a comfortable work environment where they can get to know their clients on a first name basis.

To further these claims, President of Westwood Advertising Associates, James Fiola, also put together a press release stating facts relating to Insurance, such

• There are 1,200 independent insurance agencies across the Commonwealth. These local businesses employ approximately 10,000 workers in well-paying jobs and contribute more than \$1 billion annually to the Massachusetts economy.

· The demand for new hires at First American mirrors a recent industry survey, In which nearly half (47%) of respondents indicated that they currently have or anticipate staff openings, and are looking to hire new talent. In 2017, U.S. News and World Report ranked "Insurance Agent" No. 4 on its list of best jobs.

Anyone interested in applying could email jrossi@fiaagency.com and visit faiagency.com to learn more about the

Authier, Rousseau named to dean's list at Univ. of New **England**

BIDDEFORD/PORTLAND Maine and TANGIER, Morrocco -The following students have been named to the Dean's List for the 2020 fall semester at the University of New England. Dean's List students have attained a grade point average of 3.3 or better out of a possible 4.0 at the end of the semester.

Chicopee: Sara Authier and Alexandria Rousseau.

Kyle Kazeroid named to Castleton **University Dean's** List

CASTLETON, Ver. - Kyle Kazeroid of Chicopee was recently named to the Castleton University Dean's List for the fall semester of the 2020-21 academ-

To qualify for this academic honor, students must maintain full-time status and a semester grade point average of 3.5.

Brayden Stallman of Chicopee named to Muhlenberg College Fall 2020 Dean's List

ALLENTOWN, Penn. - Congratulations to Brayden Stallman of Chicopee for being named to the Muhlenberg College Dean's List for the Fall 2020 semester.

Muhlenberg College students and

Muhlenberg College School of Continuing Studies students with a term GPA of 3.50 or higher were recognized for this academic achievement.

Selected CHS students for the month of December

CHICOPEE - Chicopee High School Student of the Month award aims to recognize students for their outstanding contributions to the CHS community. Whether it be due to academics, extracurricular activities, or upstanding character, these young people stand out for their accomplishments and commitment to excellence. On behalf of the administration and staff, it is with great honor and Pacer pride that we present the selected students for the month of December.

Genahsy Hernandez Polanco, 9th grade

Genahsy has a quiet demeanor, but the heart of a warrior. She is the Secretary for the Class of 2024. Her curiosity and willingness to put in the effort to do well academically are admirable.

Enphinnaeus Jones, 10th grade

Phinn has had phenomenal participation during remote learning and he is a positive peer model, even during this challenging virtual school experience. He is enthusiastic and alert in class everyday and his participation encourages others to feel comfortable to participate

Alivia Mendes, 11th grade

Alivia is a dedicated, kind, considerate, and hardworking student. She always has a smile on her face and a positive attitude. She tries her very best during class, is always on task, and is often asked for help by her classmates. She was the historian of her class and always went above and beyond to help.

Victor Moreno, 12th grade

Victor is an exceptional young man. He does an incredible job balancing his athletics, academics and extracurriculars. He has been the president of Best Buddies for 2.5 years and is also the president of NHS. Victor plays soccer and participates in Unified Track. Victor is a role model and outstanding young man.

Holyoke Community College Dean's List for Fall 2020 semester

Each semester Holyoke Community College recognizes superior scholarship through the Dean's List. A student is placed on the Dean's List if their G.P.A. is 3.2 or higher. The students listed below have earned Dean's List honors for the Fall 2020 semester.

Chicopee:

Tamika S. Ortiz Acosta, Kamila A. Arman, Lauren Marie Bailey, Alyssa Nouel Barbosa, Heidi Christine Bascom, Jillian Beach, Taylor Nicole Beauregard, Rachel Bellenoit, Annmarie Theresa Benjamin, Caitlyn Phyllis Black, Amina Bouhamed, Shalene B. Bracetty, Edward John Brewer Jr., Shana Christine Brodeur, Brianna Lynn Bushey, Jessica Cardona, Timothy Allen Carleton, Chris Michael Carlson, Luis Arnaldo Colon, Michelle Marie Cosme Serrano, Michael Francis Czupryna, Logan Marie Deni, Donny J. Diaz Jr., Tanyelle Debra Duchesne, Alisha Marie Duclos, Yasir Mohanad Faisal, Nadia Folegnani, Jeremy Craig Friedrich, Austin James Fydenkevez, Victoria May Gagnon, Brianna Paige Gilley-Murphy, Nadia Marie Gomes, Tricia Ann Graczyk, Lynn Ann Gregoire, Kassandra Miguelina Guerrero, Luis Manuel Heredia Jr., John Paul Hoppock, Sergey Iakovlev, Mayyadah Jaafar, Owen Jarvis Shea Jarvis, Melissa Jean Jenkins, Sumeyye Kirca, Tugce Kuruca, Kristin Jeanne Langevin, Felicia Ann LaPointe, Eduardo Alexandre Cassimiro Lima Sr., Nyah Renee Martineau, Kiersten Katherine Matulewicz, Sabrina Bail McCullough, David Melanson, Jared Joseph Menard, Mark Robert Menard, Tiffany Rose Moczydlowski, Manuel A. Mundo, Michael Joseph Murawski, Haris Naeem, Jocelyn Renee Nastanski, Alexis Navedo, Y Nguyen, Karen Osorio, Emily Gibson Page, Sandra Elizabeth Parente, Michael Philip Patnaude, Taisnaraliz Perez, Jennifer Lynn Perez, Brittany Elizabeth Pietskowski, Michael Polanco, Zachary Pray, Hailey Shea Prive, Ryan Jon Provost, Jacob A Raymond, Leah Mary Reilly, Sarah Riffenburg, Aaron L. Rivera, Samantha Mary Rodriguez, Christopher Royster, Mohanad Salman, Kimberly Santos, Anne Savage, Eric Sawyer, Jamie Schmitt, Renee Marie Soucy, Natalie Rae St. George, Sarah Chapman Tessicini, Raymond Thresher, Jalene Marie Tremble, Morgan Lyn Trombley, Kelly Jane Tyler, Jessica Whitney, Kianna Autumn Wilson.

RiverMills Center launches tablet lending program

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Councessories, as well as a basic user guide. cil on Aging has launched a tablet lending program for Chicopee seniors ages 55 and older who have internet access,

but do not have an updated device to get on the internet successful-

These tablets can be used to get online, play games, or join Zoom programming. This program will allow seniors to sign out a device for up to three weeks at a time. The tablets will also have charging and typing ac-

Anyone interested in borrowing a tablet can contact Program Technician Jona Ruiz at (413) 534-3698 ext.104.





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Chicopee Register January 15, 2021 | Page 3 **GUEST COLUMN**

Fun finding flowers

One might say I have a soft spot for heirloom flowers. Learning about these antiques as a twenty-something when I started working at Old Sturbridge Village likely set the stage for what I dub a long-term love affair. Just today I placed orders for seeds of my favorites, among the many are a number of foxglove and pink species. Read on to learn about the cream of the crop of cottage garden favorites.

There has always been a secretive side to foxgloves, due in part to an unusual name

and the potent medicine that is obtained from the plant. Legend has it that foxglove was derived from glove". "folk's folks referring to the elves and fairies of country lore. Another legend tells that the fox needed magical gloves to steal a chicken or two. A less fanciful explanation traces



IN THE

Roberta McQuaid

glove to gleow in Old English; a gleow was an ancient musical instrument made of bells suspended from a curved frame. I think the description fits the look pretty accurately! The following species I grow with success; please use caution when planting around children due to poisonous properties.

Native to Western Europe, the common foxglove (Digitalis purpura) has had a place in North American gardens since its introduction during colonial times. Tall purple spikes grace rise from basal foliage and make a strong statement in the June garden in sun or part shade, fertile ground. Although biennial, this species will self-seed prolifically. Try 'alba' for a all white strain.

There are other, more subtle species of foxglove worthy of a home in your garden. One of my top picks is the Rusty Foxglove (Digitalis ferruginea). Small flowers the color of liquid gold bloom up three to six-feet stems late in the summer. Although touted as being a biennial this species has happily returned for several years in my part shade, moisture retentive location. The yellow foxglove (D. grandiflora) is a reliable perennial, shorter than most, only 24 to 30 inches tall and blooming a soft yellow in early June. This species also prefers part shade and adequate moisture. The Grecian foxglove (D. lanata), a true biennial, has grayish flowers, blooming in July up three-foot stems. The straw foxglove (D. lutea) begins relatively short in stature but after three or four years can get quite tall at four feet. Its creamy flowers are a mere 3/4 inches and are quite unusual, but lovely, and return year after year.

Now on to the pinks. Everyone knows what a florist carnation smells like, flowery with a hint of cloves. Imagine it, but reduce the scale of the flower size and loosen the head a bit and you will be on to Sweet William, (Dianthus barbatus). Prized by florists for its clustered, richly scented three-inch flower heads, seen in white, magenta, salmon and pretty bicolors. Technically a biennial, Sweet William will occasionally return for a third or fourth year of bloom but will likely be spindly at best.

Dianthus gratianopolitanus is a mouthful for a plant better known as Cheddar Pink. Settle for a few quarter-sized fragrant pink blooms in year one, but by mid-June of the second year of the plant, it will be at least a foot to 15 inches wide by eight inches tall with flowers too numerous to count. Each individual floret is composed of five flat petals that get a bit deeper in tone near the center and tatter somewhat at the edge. Curly stamens popping up in the middle add to the interest.

See **GARDEN** page 6

GUEST COLUMN

HIKING IN WINTER

A local couple's journey through the White Mountains

By Julie Midura

So, you want to hike in winter?

The "N.H. 48" is a list of New Hampshire's tallest peaks which meet or exceed 4,000 feet of elevation. In 1957, a group of outdoor enthusiasts decided to create a club which would keep track of and recognize every hiker who climbed all 48 mountains. Once a hiker finishes hiking all 48 peaks, he or she may apply to become a member of the White Mountain 4,000 Footer Club. My husband Tom and I completed the list in September 2018. Since it's inception, approximately 15,200 hikers have become members of the club.

However, there is a separate winter award given to those who complete all 48 4,000 footers during the winter season. Due to the inherent risks and potential dangers that exist while hiking in the mountain region that has a reputation for having the worst weather in the world, only 843 hikers have been recognized as having completed the list in the winter months. While Tom and I initially decided that only those who suffer with some form of insanity would attempt such a feat, we have since joined the ranks of those who think climbing a 4,000-foot-tall mountain in winter would be "fun."

So with the winter season upon us, we headed to New Hampshire last week for our second attempt to reach the summit of Mt. Cabot. In February 2018, we turned back in defeat just three tenths of a mile from the summit due to thigh-high snowdrifts, wind chills in the negative thirties, and early signs of frostbite. It would have been our tenth Winter 4K at the time... but the mountain clearly had other plans.

The mountains have taught us many lessons in the years since that day, and with each ascent- whether successful or not- we continue to learn. Our successes and failures have helped us become better equipped and more prepared for whatever the mountain throws at us. If you hike during winter, whether to the summit of a mountain or on a hike in the valley, you may appreciate these hard-earned lessons:

Always check the weather before you venture outdoors, but be prepared for the unexpected. More often than not, the actual weather that we encounter is not what is forecasted.

Set a cutoff limit regarding temps. We've decided that we won't hike when the wind chill temperature at the summit is below negative 15 degrees. Know your personal comfort level.

Winter legs are earned... not given. It



Julie and Tom Midura on the summit of 4,170-foot Mt. Cabot.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Tom and Julie Midura heading up the trail to the summit of Mt. Cabot.

takes several hikes before your legs become conditioned for the rigors of hiking in snow-shoes, crampons, and micro-spikes. Lower your expectations regarding the mileage you will be able to complete on your first few hikes of the season.

Carrying extra gear in winter is worth the sense of security in knowing that we could survive an unexpected night on the mountain if we had to. Don't be so self-assured to think, "That will NEVER happen to me." It can. (Tom never imagined he'd break his fibula coming off of Bondcliff – until he did.)

Use Nalgene bottles for your water in winter rather than hydration bladders, which tend to freeze solid in cold temps. Place them in either an insulated holder or in a thick wool sock. Fill the bottles with hot water so they don't freeze as quickly. Place them upside down in your pack, since ice forms from the top down. Pro-tip: If you're clumsy- as I amplace a silicone straw in the bottle to sip from so that you don't spill water all over yourself when you lift the bottle to your mouth. (Not that that has ever happened to me!)

Always carry your phone. Either place it in a pocket close to your body, or place a foot warmer on it to prevent the battery from dying.

See HIKING page 6

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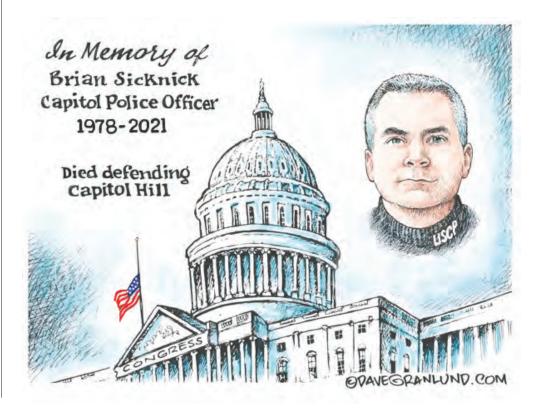
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COUNCILOR from page 1

Brooks said in an interview with the Register.

Galecki said he feels as though his viewpoint was misconstrued by his political opponents.

"What I said was something along the lines of 'women should wear more clothes if they want to be sexually harassed less," Galecki told the Register. "They took that and basically said that I said woman deserve to get raped. They took what I said, cherry-picked parts of it and made their own assumption of it to that extreme of a degree."

Galecki said he's remorseful for offending victims of sexual abuse but does not believe his transgressions warrant his removal from the City Council. Galecki said he also feels strongly that more people have come to his support in the past month than those who stand against him.

"The way I see it is a lot of people knew what I meant by it, and I'm talking a lot," said Galecki. "I had more people reach out to me telling me not to resign than the people who told me to resign. I'm pretty sure that the group of people who want me to resign is very small compared to the group that either didn't think it was a big deal or understood what I meant on it."

For the remainder of the year, and without the ability to remove Galecki from the council, Brooks said he feels he must walk a tightrope.

"[Galecki] can still vote on any matter before the council, but I can also choose not to call on him as well during council meetings so that his voice isn't heard," said Brooks. "That's going to be a balancing act for me because I have to balance my desire to put something punitive in place to, in effect, punish him for his behavior and then allow him to still represent the residents of Ward 3."

Moving forward, each of Chicopee's four City Councilors-at-Large will take on additional responsibility in Ward 3.

Residents protest

Jeannette Rivera of Our Revolution Chicopee, a community group that endorses social and racial equity, helped organize a boisterous protest outside of City Hall prior to the Jan. 5 meeting of City Council.

Rivera disagrees with Galecki's notion that the majority of constituents have sided with him, and said she would like nothing more than Galecki's removal from office.

"I think this is his first and only term on City Council because of these actions," said Rivera. "I think he has a lot of people who have the same victim-blaming and rape culture mentality as him, who don't see the impact of his words. I don't think they're necessarily from his ward or even the city."

During last week's protest, Brooks engaged those who gathered outside of City Hall. He detailed the action that the city is undertaking to unseat Galecki.

"We would need to do a home rule petition, and that requires changing the charter. We could certainly achieve that as a stand-alone home rule petition," said Brooks, after consulting Mayor John Vieau and the city's legal department. "We reached out to the state delegation almost immediately and had the conversations about how we would insert that language into our charter."

Brooks noted that the state delegation has been receptive to the potential amendment. In the meantime, Brooks and Rivera are working together to launch a series of open forums that will include both constituents and elected officials.

"There will be a larger community conversation, and it will be held in an appropriate way where people feel they can safely express their views, and we can hopefully make some progress on an issue that's clearly very important to many people," said Brooks noting that the first forum could be held as early as next month in the auditorium of either Bellamy Middle School or Chicopee Comprehensive High School.

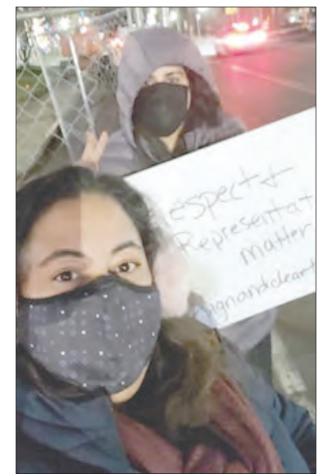
Brooks commended Rivera for her willingness to work with the city, as all sides seek a solution. Brooks condemned the actions of Fernando, who he considers to be "an agitator" who is "looking for his 15 minutes of fame and trying to stir the pot and really take advantage of what was an unfortunate exchange."

Galecki: 'I am who I am'

Despite having many critics and being removed from all subcommittees, Galecki said he feels that he still maintains a healthy relationship with members of City Council. He expects to serve the remainder of his term and run for re-election this fall.

"I get along pretty well with most, if not all of the councilors, even though they say I should resign or step down, as some of them said. I have to be careful about what I say and think about how it will affect different groups of people, but that doesn't mean I'll stay completely silent about everything. If I have a certain opinion about something that somebody asks me, I'll tell them what my opinion is. I am who I am."

Brooks feels as though the future implications of the situation extend far beyond Galecki. While municipal employees have a code of ethics that they must follow to



Jeannette Rivera [left] and Gladys Franco call for Lucjan Galecki's resignation on Jan. 5.



A boisterous group of protesters advocated for the removal of Ward 3 City Councilor Lucjan Galecki outside of last Tuesday's City Council meeting.

maintain employment, City Councilors are not held to the same standard.

"For elected officials, it's a much more difficult task to hold them accountable than if it was a rank-in-file employee, and that becomes an equity issue for other employees in the city. The mayor and I recognize that," said Brooks.

Over the past four weeks, numerous public and elected officials in Chicopee have been outspoken regarding their displeasure with Galecki, includingWard 1 School Committee representative James Tanhauser.

"I don't think he should be in office. We have to hold the person responsible who expresses these beliefs and puts them on a public forum," said Tanhauser. It's been a month since these comments were made, and I still feel the same level of anger and disgust and overall sadness for our community. They shouldn't have someone like



Johnny Miranda, Chairman of the Chicopee Cultural Council, protests against Ward 3 City Councilor Lucjan Galecki outside of City Hall on Jan. 5.



ALL PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY JEANNETTE RIVERA.

City Council President Shane Brooks addresses a contingent of residents advocating for the removal of Ward 3 City Councilor Lucjan Galecki following Galecki's insensitive Facebook comments.

this representing him."

Rivera does not believe that enough elected officials have publicly condemned Galecki's comments. She greatly appreciated Brooks' leadership but pleaded for other councilors to step up.

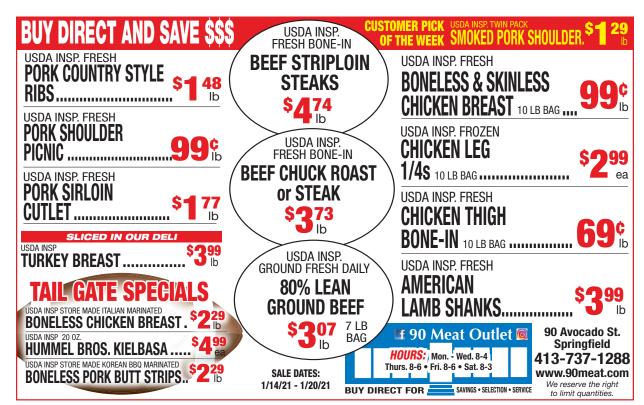
"The council needs broader viewpoints and perspectives represented, and we don't have that," said Rivera. "That's why things like this happen, and people are so quiet on the council because right now it is a boys' club. There tends to be a history of doing actions just to sedate the public – doing what's minimally needed. Our hope is that more than the minimum will come from this."

Even if Galecki is ostracized from the council, there is currently no legal statue that will require him to vacate the seat.

Galecki is optimistic that the controversy will blow over and will not step down, since he said he enjoys interacting with community members through his position. However, he said there are downsides to the position as well.

"This takes up a lot of my time. I do this for the people; not for me. I have to watch everything I say and everything I do; I have to make time in my schedule to meet everyone's needs. That's a lot of sacrifice, and the paycheck's not all that great," said Galecki.

The Office of Mayor John Vieau did not respond to a request for comment.



IN THE CITY

HIKING from page 1

Be prepared to turn back if the weather turns bad. No mountain is worth risking your health or life for.

If you hike in winter, I highly recommend the book, "The Last Traverse," by Ty Gagne. It's a true story of two hikers who attempted a traverse of Franconia Ridge in New Hampshire in winter when a storm blew in. We've already hiked that ridge in winter, but reading that book has compelled us to add several additional pieces of emergency gear to our winter arsenal.

In addition to the ten essentials that we carry year round, in winter we carry a light-weight emergency tarp, camp stove, a neoprene face mask, extra hat, extra mittens, extra socks, hand/foot and body warmers, a z-rest sleep pad cut in half, ski goggles, a battery pack to recharge our phones, spare batteries for our headlamp, and an emergency locator beacon.

Accidents happen, but I don't want a poor decision on my part to be the reason that members of a search and rescue party risk their own lives. What we do is inherently risky. It's up to us to minimize those risks by being prepared. Especially in winter-when a mistake can make the difference between life and death- it's crucial to make wise choices and trust your instincts.

Our second winter attempt of Mt. Cabot was a successful one this time. Unlike the sunny skies that the weather forecast predicted, we hiked in a snow globe all day, and the summit temps were in the single digits. The added bonus was that we had to smack our feet against rocks 3,685 times- or thereabouts- in order to remove

the baseball sized ice clumps that continuously formed on the bottom of our micro-spikes due to all of the water beneath the fresh coating of snow. But we made it to the summit, reaching our 35th mountain on the list during winter.

We hope to complete the remaining 4K's by the end of the season. I am approaching the final thirteen with slight trepidation. Those that remain are the "big ones." They either require a lengthy road walk, are incredibly steep, or are above tree line and exposed to the elements for a prolonged period of time. Mt. Washington, the highest mountain in New England, is one that we still need to climb. "The Rock Pile," as it is affectionately called, is known for having the worst weather in the world. The winter conditions on Washington's summit rival those found on Mt. Everest.

However, we have a huge amount of respect, both for the mountains we plan to climb, and for the weather that we may encounter. We have seen the list and have read the reports of those who have succumbed to the elements in the White Mountain Region

We are no match against the limitless power of the mountains. In a battle of wills, we will not win. We realize that they have no concern for our welfare. We know how insignificant and inconsequential we are in the shadow of the mountain. We are aware of the power of nature's fury as we enter her space. We will heed her warnings. We will bow to her fluctuating moods. We will leave if she tells us that she doesn't want us there.

We must, if we are to continue to rise to meet the mountaintops.

Peace, and hike on!

COVID from page 1

to neighborhood, spending a week or two in different parts of the city," said Vieau.

First responders and health workers in the city of Chicopee are in the process of being vaccinated. One Chicopee police officer recently suffered an adverse reaction to the vaccine and was observed for some time, but is now reportedly doing well at home.

Gillette Stadium in Foxboro, home of the New England Patriots, will serve as a vaccination site, although Chicopee officials are optimistic that a site will be established in western Massachusetts.

The city currently boasts an adequate amount of personal protective equipment, although an inventory check will soon be conducted.

The School Department is calling back staff for the schools and grades that are reopening, Vieau said during the weekly briefing.

Furloughed custodians and workers will be called back as needed, and 10 CNAs will begin working next Monday. Additionally, WiFi jetpacks will be returned and will be available as needed for students and other services.

Dalton Zbierski is a Staff Writer and can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.

GARDEN from page 1

Pheasant-Eye or Cottage Pink, (Dianthus plumarius), is less behaved than it cousin. The silver foliage has a tendency bend and grow in funny, rambling angles, making it a great candidate for draping over the edge of a raised border or rock wall. The flowers are fragrant still, but less prolific than those of Cheddar Pink. Similar in appearance too, except that they have an even more pronounced, dark eye against white, light pink and deep pink petals- giving it the name Pheasant-Eye!

The last pretty pink I'll mention today is Fringed or Superb Pink (Dianthus superbus). It differs from Clove and Pheasant Eye in that its foliage is green and less spiky, more grass-like. And while the others top off under a foot, Fringed Pink grows two feet tall or taller. Light pink or purple flowers are deeply fringed, giving them a very

delicate appearance that is best admired (and sniffed!) up close.

Many of these Dianthus and Digitalis species are available by seed through JL Hudson, Seedsman (www.jlhudsonseeds. net) and Richters (www.richters.com). Plants are easy to grow, best started indoors in late February. Pinks prefer to sprout offheat, but foxgloves benefit from heating cables. Light will aid in germination for both types; simply press the seed into the soil surface and do not cover.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.





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Thursday, January 21, 12pm-5pm • Friday, January 22, 8am-5pm Saturday, January 23, 8am-5pm • Sunday, January 24, 9am-3pm





After responding to a fire at 348 Montcalm St., Chicopee emergency personnel reported what appeared to be a drug manufacturing operation on the property.

ARRESTS from page 1

chemicals and other dangerous equipment were left unaccounted for.

Crews were on-scene for more than 12 hours. Once the Hazmat team deemed the site to be safe, Chicopee police executed the search warrant and secured the materials removed by the Hazmat team.

As a result of the investigation, David Chmielewski, 38, of Chicopee and Stephanie Rollings, 37, of Springfield, were arrested and charged with cultivating and manufacturing Class C and D drugs and possessing to distribute Class C and D drugs.

Given the nature of the chemicals and materials that were found on the property, Chicopee police said they were relieved to report that the site is secure.

"Due to the quick response from the Chicopee Fire Department to extinguish the fire, as well as the efforts of the Hazmat team to mitigate potentially hazardous materials, the issue was contained to the incident site, and there were no additional safety concerns to the community," Liszka wrote in the Jan. 7 statement.

The Chicopee Police Department extended its gratitude to the State Police Fire & Explosion Investigation Unit and the State Police Clandestine Laboratory Enforcement Team, as well as the residents who live in proximity to 348 Montcalm St.

The following day, on Jan. 6, law enforcement personnel visited Montcalm Street once more.

There, Chicopee Police Narcotics



A disturbance occurred at the Montcalm Heights Apartments on Montcalm Street on Jan. 6 when Chicopee narcotics detectives located multiple firearms, 40 grams of heroin and over \$6,000 cash in a unit.

Detectives joined forces with the Western Massachusetts Gang Task Force to execute a search a unit in the Montcalm Heights Apartments at 419 Montcalm St. Three firearms, over 40 grams of heroin, marijuana and more than \$6,000 in currency were dis-

Chicopee residents Jasell Camacho, 24, and Chris Vega, 24, as well as Holyoke resident Victor Perez-Rodriguez, 25, were each charged with trafficking a Class A (heroin), possession with intent to distribute Class D (marijuana), three counts of possession of a fire arm without a license, three counts of possession of ammunition without a license, possession of a firearm during the commission of a felony, improper storage of a firearm and receiving stolen property.

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HIGH SCHOOL

Current restrictions could severely limit fans at winter sports

By Gregory A. Scibelli gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – Depending on a town's individual situation, winter schedules have begun formulating in high school boys and girls basketball, swimming, and boys and girls ice hockey.

One thing various schools will be navigating very carefully or not at all is the ability to have fans in high school gymnasiums.

Due to the space confines and the need to keep students in smaller groups, it is almost certain there will be no fans at swim meets, but there could be fans at some high school gymnasiums and possibly at ice hockey rinks.

However, under the current restrictions by Gov. Charlie Baker, it may not be possible.

During the fall season, the indoor gathering size got as large as 50 people during the most advance phase of the governor's re-opening plan. But with thousands and thousands of new cases each day coming off the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, Baker has shrunk the maximum gathering size indoors to just 10 people.

While schools were exempted or had orders modified,

it is not clear, according to the Massachusetts website, how it will apply to fans at high school games. Baker did say at a press conference last week that the 10 or less guideline did not apply to schools with data showing that school could take place safely.

During the fall season, only girls volleyball was held indoors. A few schools did allow just one or two fans per home team player to be in the gymnasium and social distancing and face coverings were required at all times while indoors.

Outdoors, most schools allowed home fans up to a certain

number or issued two or three passes to players and only those with passes were allowed inside venues. A few schools, citing a lack of ability to control the crowds, were forced to bar fans completely in order to allow games to be played.

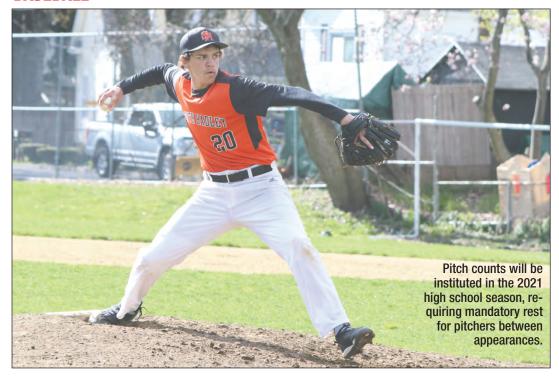
Holyoke was the first school to be forced to shut down sports due to COVID-related issues. Chicopee, Ludlow, and Wilbraham also experienced similar shutdowns.

Ice hockey is scheduled to begin as well, with arenas including Fitzpatrick, Olympia Ice Center, and Smead hosting a limited number of games. There are only 40 players allowed to participate in games, and it is unclear how many people the arenas will allow to attend games, especially with teams sharing home ice.

Fans should check with their child's individual schools in order to find out what rules will be in place for fans.

Playing of games could take place around Jan. 21 and about 10 to 12 contests are planned for basketball and hockey. There will be no tournaments for winter season sports.

BASEBALL



Counting app 'pitched' to baseball committee

By Gregory A. Scibelli gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – While some sports are struggling to be able to just take place, there is hope that spring sports like softball, lacrosse, and baseball will be able to have somewhat of a normal season.

With that discussion, the Baseball Committee of the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association has begun further discussions about the uniform record-keeping of pitching.

A couple of years ago, the MIAA agreed to institute pitch counts in high school baseball.

One of the most glaring changes high school coaches will have to deal with is a pitch count, which would require a pitcher to come out of a game once he reaches 115 pitches, and then require at least four days of rest before that individual can pitch again. There are other rest requirements for smaller numbers of pitches.

For South Hadley High

School coach Matt Foley, he wonders how the pitch count rule is going to be enforced.

"The MIAA is going to need a system of reporting," said Foley. "But the two sides are going need to agree on pitch counts during the game."

Teams will need to have individuals be responsible for keeping accurate pitch count, and new South Hadley Athletic Director Eric Castonguay says there is supposed to be an online reporting system for pitch counts through the MIAA.

"Pitch counts are supposed to go to Athletic Directors, who will place them online," Castonguay said not long after the rule was passed.

At a recent Baseball Committee meeting, Change Up, a phone app, was presented to committee members and is an official "PitchSmart" USA Baseball-certified applications.

The app itself is very simple. It provides a comprehensive tracking of a player's pitching activity across a season.

One huge benefit is that is

has automated reporting to a database for the National Federation of High Schools. The MIAA recently adopted NFHS rules in nearly all sports, including baseball. While the app supposedly provides analytics in regards to safety, durability, and effectiveness of a given pitcher, it's most important factor for high school teams is the ability to document pitch counts and provide access for all teams to access any team's current pitch status.

While it is very unlikely a high school coach will be concerned with the analytics portion of an athlete's pitching performances, it will help them determine which pitchers can be used and for how long in a given game. It will also allow for pitching planning to take place, especially for a team that may have three to four games in a given week.

The pitch counting rule is supposed to in full effect in 2021 whenever the season be-

PITCH | page 8

BASEBALL

Road race cancelled for second straight year



The Annual St. Patrick's Road Race has been cancelled. It is also the second straight year the event will not happen.

By Gregory A. Scibelli gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – For the second consecutive year, the Holyoke St. Patrick's Committee has cancelled two annual events that are both huge culture and economic boosting events for the city and the surrounding area.

Thanks to a continuing surge and the need for more time to administer the vaccine for COVID-19, the St. Patrick's Committee has voted to cancel both the Holyoke St. Patrick's Road Race and the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

The road race and parade were cancelled last year as the pandemic first started last March and much of the state had to be essentially locked down. The two events were cancelled as large scale events were no longer safe to have.

According to a press release from the committee, "since the cancellation of the 69th Annual Holyoke St. Patrick's Parade last March, Officers of the Committee have had numerous conversations with city health and public safety officials. All were hopeful that the COVID-19 health pandemic would have subsided, and

it would be safe to gather in large numbers again. Unfortunately, that is not the case. Although some have been able to obtain the COVID-19 vaccine, it is not yet widely distributed enough. The health and safety of first responders, parade spectators and parade participants are our primary concern."

The committee then voted on Monday to suspend parade and race activities, thus cancelling the parade and race.

"In observance of the public health circumstances, the Parade Committee voted at its Jan. 3 virtual meeting to 'suspend all in-person Parade activities through the end of March 2021.' As a result of this vote, the 2020-2021 Parade will be postponed until 2022."

Parade President Marc Joyce said the decision was very difficult, and parade organizers waited as long as possible before making the tough decision to cancel the parade.

"This was not an easy decision to make", said Marc Joyce, 2020-2021 Parade President. "We understand that many will be saddened, but we need to do

RACE | page 8

Chicopee Register January 15, 2021 | Page 7

Gentle exercise via Zoom

CHICOPEE- The Council on Aging offers "Gentle Exercise with Ryan" Via Zoom, Mondays and Fridays at 12 p.m.

This class focuses on functional movement & fun. This is an online class. Join Ryan every Monday and Friday at 12 p.m. The Zoom link is shared on RiverMills Center's Facebook page. If you do not have Facebook, please contact RiverMills Center at (413) 534-3698 to provide your email address for the Zoom link to be emailed to you. Please save the Zoom link as that is the link you will use each class.

Zoom Tai Chi with Michelle

CHICOPEE – The Council on Aging offers "Tai Chi with Michelle" Via Zoom, Thursdays at 1:30 p.m.

Experience the many slow and gentle benefits of Tai Chi Fit/Qigong. The class is led by Michelle Zemba LMT, Certified in Tai Chi/Qigong. This is an online class. The Zoom link will be shared on RiverMills Center's Facebook page. If you do not have Facebook, please call RiverMills Center at (413) 534-3698 to provide your email address for the Zoom link to be sent to you. Please save the link as this will be the link you will use for each

Zoom Meditation with Michelle

CHICOPEE - The Council on Aging offers "Meditation with Michelle" Via Zoom, Thursdays at 12 p.m.

Are you feeling stressed? Do you want to learn how to relax? Join us for Meditation on Zoom. This class is led by Michelle Zemba LMT. This is an online class. The Zoom link will be shared on RiverMills Center's Facebook page. If you do not have Facebook, please call RiverMills Center at (413) 534-3698 to provide your email address for the Zoom link to be sent to you. Please save the link as this will be the link you will use for each class.

Elder Law Attorney workshop

CHICOPEE - The Council on Aging will offer an Elder Law Attorney Zoom workshop on Wednesday, Jan. 27 at 11 a.m.

Join Jeremey F. Edwards, JD, MBA, of Sites & Edwards, PC for a Zoom workshop to discuss the basics of estate planning. The presentation will cover wills, health care proxies, durable power of attorney forms, beneficiary designations, and revocable trusts.

This Zoom link will be available on Facebook or by calling (413) 534-3698. Registration is not necessary, but is appreciated. If you call to register, you will be asked to provide email and phone number to have the Zoom link sent to you and to receive a reminder call of the workshop.

'Stop Smoking & Start Living' **Zoom series**

CHICOPEE - The Council on Aging will offer the Zoom Series "Stop Smoking & Start Living" Saturday, Jan. 16 and 23 at 10 a.m.

Are you tired of smoking and having cigarettes control your life? If you said 'yes' and you're finally ready to be a non-smoker, then Robin Davis will help you stop smoking forever for a healthier life!

This series is \$25 and participants must register in advance by calling (413) 534-3698. Payment must be

made before the first session by dropping or mailing off check or cash to RiverMills Center. Checks may be made out to Robin Davis. Participants will receive an email with the Zoom link upon registra-

Granite series adds trip to **New London** WALPOLE, N.H. -- Granite State gives our schedule a mix of everything Pro Stock Series officials announced on

calling (413) 534-3698.

Saturday a trip to New London-Waterford Speedbowl has been set for Saturday, July 24. The race was originally listed as a TBA on the schedule, announced on Dec. 10, but has now been sealed up.

The New London-Waterford event is part of a 15-race announced slate for the New Hampshire based touring series for the new calendar year. The .375-mile asphalt oval, located in Waterford, Connecticut, will mark the second stop in the nutmeg state, as the first will come in the season-opener as part of the NAPA Spring Sizzler at Stafford Motor Speedway on April 24.

The New London-Waterford race will help begin the second half of the season in the hunt to crown a champion.

"Adding this date at Waterford truly

for 2021," Mike Parks, president of the Granite State Pro Stock Series, said. "Waterford has become one of the tracks that always brings out the top Pro Stock talent. We're looking forward to heading back to Connecticut.'

'Meal Planning, Groceries &

Wednesday, Jan. 20 at 10 a.m.

staying active.

Goal Setting' Zoom presentation

program "Meal Planning, Groceries & Goal Setting" on

es Snap-ED program, participants will learn meal and

menu planning strategies to help prepare healthy and af-

fordable dishes. We will review the benefits associated

with meal planning, tips for getting started with menu

planning, grocery shopping strategies to help stretch

food dollars, and setting goals for eating healthy and

Facebook events page, the City website (search COA Chicopee RiverMills Reminder) or by calling (413) 534-

Tuesday yoga at RiverMills Center

be offering Zoom Yoga on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Council on Aging will

Caitlin Lavin, Certified Yoga Instructor, will be lead-

ing classes. These classes are free and the Zoom links are

available on RiverMills Center's Facebook page or by

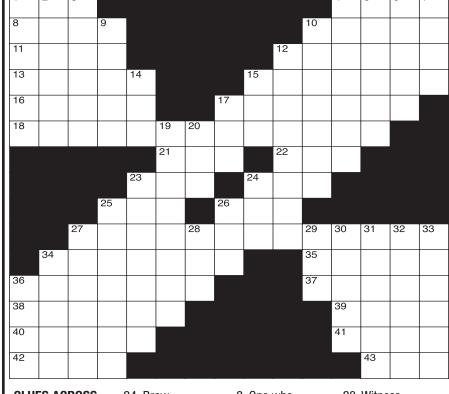
Program Zoom links are available on RiverMills'

CHICOPEE - The Council on Aging will offer the

In this workshop led by Ascentria Care Allianc-

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, GSPSS teams competed at New London-Waterford twice in 2020. Joey Pole was crowned the champion in October -- scoring a victory in the process -while Seekonk Speedway regular David Darling dominated the September event en route to Victory Lane.

For more information on the Granite State Pro Stock Series, visit the series on the web at gspss.net or follow on social media via Facebook, Twitter and Insta-



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Adequate yearly progress (abbr.)
- 4. Silicon Valley's specialty 8. Gather a harvest 34. Discomfort
- 10. Famed mathematician
- 11. No (slang) 12. Students use
- one 13. Type of molecule
- 15. Play makebelieve 16. Large barrel-
- like containers 17. Touching 18. Treats allergies
- 21. Calendar month CLUES DOWN 22. Single
- 23. Cease to live

- 24. Brew 25. What ghosts say
- 26. Geological time 27. Focus
- 35. A citizen of Iran 36. Trip
- 37. Imitate 38. Makes happy 39. Double-reed
- instrument 40. Body parts 41. Transgressions 42. One-time
- emperor of Russia 43. Time zone
- 1. Used in treating 19. Foolish bruises

- 2. One who cultivates a small estate
- 3. One who supports the Pope
- 4. Annuity 5. Geological period 6. Grab onto tightly 7. Kept
- 9. Chinese city 10. The most direct route
- 12. Type of tooth _ kosh, near Lake Winnebago
- 15. Popular veggie 17. Supervises interstate commerce

behaviors

- 20. Witness 23. Gives 24. Expression of creative skill
- 25. A way to prop up 26. Midway between northeast and east
- 27. Winter melon 28. Supernatural power
- 29. Target 30. Threes 31. A type of poetic
- verse 32. They make some people cry
- 33. Kindest 34. Forman and Ventimiglia are two
- 36. A way to liquefy

PITCH I from page 7

gins. The app is utilized in many states, including most of the Northeast.

If the MIAA reaches a deal for the app, it would address the concerns of Foley and many other high school coaches.

There is still some criticism over how the rule could hamper smaller schools in Division 4, potentially crippling programs and crippling developmental programs

like junior varsity as high school coaches could be forced to use extra pitchers from junior varsity teams to meet the pitch count requirements.

American Legion teams in Western Massachusetts utilized pitch counts in the 2019. Pitch counts were agreed to by both teams during games and tracked via the Legion's website.

RACE I from page 7

what is best for our community. We will march again, and we will have much to celebrate over homecoming weekend in 2022.

"I would like to sincerely thank the many people who have contacted us over the past year. The Committee is comprised of 200+ members who work all year-long to put on, what we believe, is the best St. Patrick's Parade in the country. I would like to thank all of them for their efforts in helping to carry-out this celebrated tradition. The Committee would also like to acknowledge the City of Holyoke and our many sponsors, without whose assistance and cooperation the Parade would not be possible year-after-year."

The Road Race was set to be in its 45th year last year when it was cancelled due to the beginning of the pandemic. The Road Race draws out huge crowds and has been an event that has drawn harriers from all over Western Massachusetts as well as all over the country and even some foreign countries.

The event was cancelled last year just 11 days prior, though runners are getting plenty of notice.

The last race was held in 2019 and was won by Louis Serafini of Somerville. The female winner was Danielle Winslow, a local runner from South Hadley.

A lot of runners use the Holyoke race as preparation for the Boston Marathon, which usually is held a month later on Patriots Day. That race has been postponed and it is not completely clear if and when that race will take place though officials have been hopeful it could be done in the fall of this year.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing Wednesday, January 27, 2021 at 6:30 PM* in the Council Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Special Permit application under Chapter 275-52 (B) (3) for the purpose of garage which is not accessory to a principal structure - undeveloped lot with existing garage accessory to the residential structure at 418 Chicopee Street located at 0 Maplewood Avenue (Parcel ID 414-58). Applicant - Roseann Bonatakis, 21 Meadow Lane, Southwick, MA 01077

The plans/application can be viewed on the City Council website https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications

*COVID-19: Pursuant to the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law. MGL c. 30A due to the novel Coronavirus outbreak, the January 27, 2021 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. As required, alternative public access to this hearing shall be provided in the following manner: The hearing will be conducted via teleconference (Zoom). Anyone wishing to participate either in person in the Chambers or remotely shall, provide notice to the Office of the City Council by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM - 5 PM or by emailat aczarniecki@chicopeema. gov by January 25, 2021. Those giving such notice will need to identify the public hearing and provide their name, address and contact phone number to minimize the potential for zoom bombing of the meeting and if attending in person to be screened as required by the City of Chicopee. The hearing will be available for viewing on Spectrum Access Channel 191 or the Chicopee TV website Facebook.com/ChicopeeTV and or https://vimeo.com/chicopeetv.

The petition and materials related to this proposal are on file in the Office of the City Council, Chicopee City Hall, 274 Front Street, (plans and applications are also available on the City Council website https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/PendingApplications.) You may also call (413) 594-1435 or email aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov. 1/08. 1/15/2021

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to discuss the following:
Special Permit application
under Chapter 275-58 (C)
(4) for the purpose of serving
beer and wine at restaurant –
an eating and drinking place
with the consumption of alcohol located at 17 White Birch
Plaza. Applicant – Emiray,
Inc., dba Pizza Palace, Onur
Onder, 17 White Birch Plaza,
Chicopee, MA 01020.

The plans/application

can be viewed on the City Council website https://www. chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications

*COVID-19: Pursuant to the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, MGL c. 30A due to the novel Coronavirus outbreak, the January 27, 2021 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. As required, alternative public access to this hearing shall be provided in the following manner: The hearing will be conducted via teleconference (Zoom). Anyone wishing to participate either in person in the Chambers or remotely shall, provide notice to the Office of the City Council by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM - 5 PM or by emailat aczarniecki@chicopeema. gov by January 25, 2021. Those giving such notice will need to identify the public hearing and provide their name, address and contact phone number to minimize the potential for zoom bombing of the meeting and if attending in person to be screened as required by the City of Chicopee. The hearing will be available for viewing on Spectrum Access Channel 191 or the Chicopee TV website Facebook.com/ChicopeeTV and or https://vimeo.com/chicopeetv.

The petition and materials related to this proposal are on file in the Office of the City Council, Chicopee City Hall, 274 Front Street, (plans and applications are also available on the City Council website https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications.) You may also call (413) 594-1435 or email aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov. 1/08, 1/15/2021

CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing Wednesday, January 27, 2021 at 6:30 PM* in the Council Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

to discuss the following:

Special Permit application under Chapter 275-50C and 275-9 for the purpose of installation of an accessory sign within 35 ft setback within an Industrial Garden Planned Unit Development, type 1 zone located at 27 Lonczak Drive. Applicant – University of Massachusetts, Amherst c/o Facilities & Campus Services, Gaetan Blais, 360 Campus Center Way, Amherst, MA 01003-9248

The plans/application can be viewed on the City Council website https://www. chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications

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The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing Wednesday, January 27, 2021 at 6:30 PM* in the Council Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Special Permit application under Chapter 275-72 for the purpose of an adult use of marijuana facility. The project proposes to redevelop an existing 80,000 +/- square foot building and open a marijuana cultivation facility (License Group A, B2B) and retail marijuana dispensary (License Group B, B2C). In the City of Chicopee both License Group A & B are allowed by Special Permit approval within the Industrial Zoning District in accordance with Section 275-72 D 3 of the Zoning Ordinance. This application includes the request for the City Council to waive the 100foot wide vegetated screen along the parcel boundary that is abutting any residentially-zoned or residentially-used parcel (Section 275-72D 4 d 3). The project proposes a planted vegetated buffer with a minimum depth of 9 feet on the eastern property lines and project does not include a vegetated buffer along the western property line located at 30 Buckley Blvd. Applicant - Revolution Greencare, LLC. c/o Greenglove Consulting, David Peskin, 139 Damon Road #5, North Hampton, MA

The plans/application can be viewed on the City Council website https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications

*COVID-19: Pursuant to the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, MGL c. 30A due to the novel Coronavirus outbreak, the January 27, 2021 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. As required, alternative public access to this hearing shall be provided in the following manner: The hearing will be conducted via teleconference (Zoom). Anyone wishing to participate either in person

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SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES Under G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A

Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on January 22, 2021 at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

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Stephanie Harkun 119 Springfield Rd Westfield, MA 01085

2001 Honda Civic VIN: 2HGES25781H556850 Abraham Rivera 68 Russellville Rd Westfield, MA 01085

2001 Saturn SC1 VIN: 1G8ZP12841Z282792 Luis Miguel Lopez-Lopez 32 Lauighton St Lynn, MA 01902

2003 Chevrolet Silverado C1500 VIN: 1GCEC14V73Z113582

Bryan Reynolds
19 St Clair Rd
Brimfield, MA 01010

2003 Honda Odyssey VIN: 5FNRL18923B151533 Juliet Morales 2702 Main St Springfield, MA 01107

2003 Volkswagen Passat VIN:WVWTH63B53P105375 Vincent Kuillan 30 Quincy St Springfield, MA 01104

2003 Yamaha YZFR1 VIN: JYARN10E73A011985 Brian Stober 73 Greenwood Dr Westfield, MA 01085

2004 Ford F150 VIN: 1FTPX14544NA43240 Lisa Carriveau 88 Acushnet Ave Springfield, MA 01105

2004 Honda Accord VIN: 1HGCM55624A116099 Luis Hiraldo 86 Granby Rd Chicopee, MA 01020

2005 Chevrolet Trailblazer 1GNDT13S052377975 Kristina Shanise 56 Burns Ave Springfield, MA 01119 2005 Jeep Grand Cherokee VIN: 1J4GR48K75C723362 Larry Lewis 170 Waldrof St Springfield, MA 01109

2005 Yamaha YZFR6 VIN: JYARJ06E15A022206 Unknown

2006 Ford Escape VIN: 1FMYU94146KA03328 Sarahi Sanchez 76 Lillian Rd Bristol, CT 06010

2007 Nissan Murano VIN: JN8AZ08W67W618275 Tek Darvi 38 Riverdale St West Springfield, MA 01089

2008 Subaru Legacy VIN: 4S3BL626587215994 Larame Pinna 26 Maple St Hinsdale, MA 01235

2011 Chevrolet Impala VIN: 2G1WG5EK4B1321990 Hertz Vehicles Llc 450 William F Mcclellan Hwy Boston, MA 02128

20125 Honda Civic VIN: 2HGFG3B59CH519579 Brett Oconnor 220 Springdale Rd Westfield, MA 01085

2013 Toyota Venza VIN: 4T3BK3BB3DU075988 Hector Ortiz 51 Orange St Westfield, MA 01085

1/08, 1/15, 1/22/2021

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and **Family Court** 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD20P2177EA Estate of: Victoria J. Patla Date of Death: 07/10/2001 CITATION ON PETITION FOR **FORMAL** ADJUDICATION To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Francine P. Zitta of Willsboro, NY requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Francine P. Zitta of Willsboro, NY be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/28/2021.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you

UNSUPERVISED
ADMINISTRATION
UNDER THE
MASSACHUSETTS
UNIFORM PROBATE
CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland,** First Justice of this Court. Date: December 31, 2020

Suzanne T. Seguin Register of Probate 01/15/2021

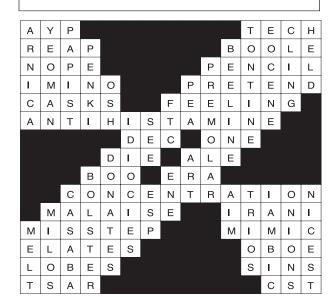
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Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$120, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.



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Horace Smith Fund scholarship and fellowship information meetings in January

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REGION - The Horace Smith Fund, now in its 121st year, has scholarship and fellowship money available for graduates of Hampden County public and private high schools.

Two online information meetings are scheduled for Monday, Jan. 11 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Jan. 24 at 2 p.m. for parents and students. To secure an invitation to attend, write info@HoraceSmithFund.org. Each session is about 40 minutes long and will include a question-and-answer period.

Scholarships awards of \$12,000 are distributed as \$3,000 annually and renewable each year until graduation. Fellowship awards of \$15,000 are distributed as \$5,000 annually and renewable for two additional years. Students must maintain at least a B average in college.

Recipients are selected on a variety of criteria, including financial need, cumulative graduating GPA, extra-curricular activities, recommendations, and college entrance exam scores, if applicable. Of great importance is a personal written account of why the student feels deserving of financial assistance. Additionally, fellowship applicants must also submit their GRE or degree-specific test scores, if applicable. All recipients

must be full-time students and residents of Hampden County.

Last year, \$297,000 was awarded to 24 individuals. Scholarships were given to 18 graduating seniors from Hampden County high schools. Three scholarships were also awarded to current college students to assist them in completing their undergraduate degrees. Three fellowships were given to college graduates pursuing graduate degrees, who had graduated from Hampden County high schools.

The Horace Smith Fund was established in 1899 by the successful and generous philanthropist named Horace Smith, co-founder of Smith & Wesson, located in Springfield. The scholarships and fellowships are named for Walter S. Barr, a West Springfield businessman, whose widow left the bulk of the family estate to The Horace Smith Fund in 1950.

Completed applications must be received either electronically or by mail to The Horace Smith Fund at 16 Union Avenue, Suite 2K, Westfield, MA 01085 no later than March 15, 2021. Applications are available online at www.HoraceSmithFund.org or by phoning the office at (413) 739-4222.

HCC Women's Leadership Series returns Jan. 27

HOLYOKE - Luz Lopez, executive director of MetroCare of Springfield, and Annamarie Golden, director of Community Relations for Baystate Health, will be the featured presenters Jan. 27 for the first Holyoke Community College Women's Leadership Luncheon Series of 2021.

The Spring Women's Leadership Luncheon Series will be held from noon to 1:15 p.m. over Zoom on the last Wednesdays of January, February, March, April and May.

Once a month, participants will join a group of women leaders to discuss current issues and ideas to help their leadership development. They will also have the opportunity to form a supportive network of women leaders to help navigate their careers.

The theme of the first session is "Compassion Fatigue."

"I think many of us are feeling exhausted from all the work and life adjustments we've had to make in 2020," said Michele Cabral, HCC executive director of Business, Corporate and Professional Development. "There couldn't be a better time to get together with a small group of like-minded women to get feedback and professional support for the new year. Whether you're at the beginning or middle of your career, this is a great opportunity to boost your outlook and skills."

Each lunch-time event will feature two presenters leading discussions on different topics:

Jan. 27: "Compassion Fatigue" -Lopez and Golden.

Feb. 24: "Maintaining Power and Grace with Glass Ceilings" - Lynn Turner, coach and business strategist, Clear Vision Alliance, Inc.; Moe Belliveau, executive director, Easthampton Chamber of Commerce.

March 31: "Women's Leadership from a Male Perspective" - Presenters

April 28: Topic and presenters TBD

May 26: "Leading Through Change" - Margaret Tantillo, executive director, Dress for Success Western Massachusetts; Jess Roncarati-Howe, program director, Dress for Success Western Massachusetts.

Sessions are \$20 each. The full five-session series is \$50. Space is limited. Advance registration is required.

To register, please go to: hcc.edu/ leadership-luncheons

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development " HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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Chicopee Register January 15, 2021 | Page 11









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